

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

few. Corolla ligulate, tube very short, green, swollen and rounded at base, divided halfway above into 3-4 lobes; lobes white with purple tinge, 0.05-0.1 cm long. Disc florets (bisexual floret) few in the centre of the receptacle, 0.8-1 cm long; palea sheathing, 0.4-0.5 cm long, toothed at the apex. Corolla tube swollen and rounded at base, linear in the middle, broad at apex, divided into 5 ovate, acute lobes. Stamens 5, epipetalous, syngeneis; anthers linear obtuse at base and apex, pollen grains rounded and spiny; ovary oblong, white, with one erect ovule, style stout, cylindrical, 0.5 cm long, shortly divided into 2 stout, fleshy, stigma lobes; cypselas oblong, laterally compressed.

An abundant aquatic weed, recently introduced in the pond. For the last 10 months,

we have watched the plant and its growth. It occupies almost half of the lake in pure formations, partially submerged under water with only the upper half remaining erect above the water level. Birds of various types visit the pond in different seasons from different parts of the country, and feed upon the plants of the pond.

This species is an aromatic or essential oil yielding plant. Internal structure of the plant is typical of a dicot plant having normal secondary growth, adapted for aquatic life.

*Flowering & Fruiting*: January-March. *Locality*: Bandra Pond. *Exsiccata*: SMA — 6001, 6010.

We are grateful to Mr. M. R. Almeida and Mr. G. G. V. B. Rao for the help rendered in preparing this article.

BLATTER HERBARIUM,  
ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE,  
BOMBAY - 400 001,  
April 25, 1986.

S. M. ALMEIDA  
A. R. DARUWALLA

32. OCCURRENCE OF THREE INTERESTING PLANTS AT  
NANDUR MADHMESHWAR, NASIK DISTRICT,  
MAHARASHTRA

(With three text-figures)

Nandur Madhmeshwar reservoir, also known as 'Khandgaon Thadi' is situated about 55 km away from Nasik in Nasik District has three large islands in the middle and an abundance of aquatic vegetation. It has become an excellent birdwatching area for waterfowl both resident and migratory. There is a proposal to declare the area as a 'Bird-Sanctuary' by the Government of Maharashtra.

It was decided to work on the flora of this interesting area as there is no data on its

plant life. A number of field trips were made in different seasons and some interesting features of the flora were noted.

This paper describes the occurrence of a new plant for Maharashtra and two common but less known species.

1. *Cocculus pendulus* (J. R. & G. Forst.) Diels in Engl. & Prantl. 4. 94:237, fig. 78, 1910; Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 1: 29,

1915; Hutchinson & Dalziel, Fl. W. Tr. Afr. 1: 79, 1927 (ed. 1) & 1: 76, 1954 (ed. 2); G. Troupin, Fl. E. Tr. Afr. Menisp. 10. 1956. (Fig. 1).

*Epibaterium pendulum* J. R. & G. Forst. Ghae. Gen. 108, t. 54, 1776.

*Menispermum leaba* Del., Fl. Egypt, 140, t. 51, fig. 2-3, 1813.

*Cocculus leaeba* (Del.) DC. Syst. 1: 529, 1818 and Prodr. 1: 99, 1824; Hook. f., Fl. Brit. Ind. 1: 102, 1872; T. Cooke, Fl. Pres. Bombay 1: 21 (23), 1901; Talbot. For. Fl. 1: 42-43, 1909; Bamber, Pl. of Punjab, 605, 1916.

A scandent climbing shrub.

The species has been reported from Karachi-Sindh by T. Cooke; Valleys below Simla, and Rawalpindi by Bamber; from Carnatic by Hooker; from Madurai, Madras by Gamble; from Porbunder by Woodrow; and from Kutch and Saurashtra by Shah; Talbot has reported it earlier from Nasik, Nagar & Pune but subsequently there is no report of the species from Maharashtra.

The species is very poorly represented in various herbaria in Maharashtra. There are only 4 specimens in Blatter Herbarium; of which 3 are from Gujarat (H. Santapau: Jamnagar — 7692, 7706; Irani: Julunder Bet, Kutch — 5312 and the other from Karachi (s.n., s.l., 1892).

Rare in the locality, a male plant growing on *Azadirachta indica* west of Khandgaon riverbed was collected on a *Euphorbia* hedge.

Our identification is based on the description given by Cooke and was confirmed by matching the specimen with Blatter Herbarium specimens, which have been identified at Kew.

*Flowering*: October-January.

*Exsiccata*: RDS — 500, 669, 885; MRA — s.n.

2. *Vicia sativa* Linn. Sp. Pl. 736, 1753; Baker in Hook. f. FBI 2: 178, 1876; Fyson Fl. of Nil. & Pul. Hills-tops, 1:117, 1915 & 2: t. 88, 1915; Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 1: 246, 1957; Ali in Bot. Notiser 120: 48, 1967 & Fl. Pak. 100 (Pap): 269, fig. C, 1977 (only habit). (Fig. 2).

Annual herb, erect or climbing. Leaves bipinnate. Rachis ending in twisted tendrils.

The species has been reported from South Nilgiri hills by Fyson & Gamble; from Dehra Dun by D. R. Babu and from Gujarat by G. L. Shah. At BLAT there is only one specimen collected from Nilgiris by L. J. Sedgwick 1626, July 1916. There is no earlier record of the species from any part of Maharashtra.

A rare species in this locality growing east of the reservoir towards the Manjargaon in the waste-lands and on the dry riverbed. Our identification is based on the description given in Fl. Pak. by Ali and was confirmed by comparing with the herbarium specimen of Sedgwick — 1626; deposited at BLAT.

*Flowering*: December-January.

*Exsiccata*: RDS — 363, 934.

3. *Pluchea tomentosa* DC. in Wt. Contr. 16, 1834; DC. Prodr. 5: 450, 1836; C. B. Clarke, in Comp. of Ind. 94, 1876; Hooker f., FBI 3: 272, 1882; Woodrow in Journ. BNHS, 11: 648, 1898; T. Cooke, Fl. Pres. of Bombay 1: 25 (2: 81), 1904; Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras, 1: 690 (2: 485), 1915; Duthie, Fl. Upp. Gang. Pl. 1: 418, 1960. (Fig. 3).

A shrub generally, 1-2.5 m tall, sometimes growing up to 3 to 4 m in height with support of other plants.

The species is poorly represented in Indian herbaria. After referring to different herbaria, we found that there are 9 specimens at Bota-

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

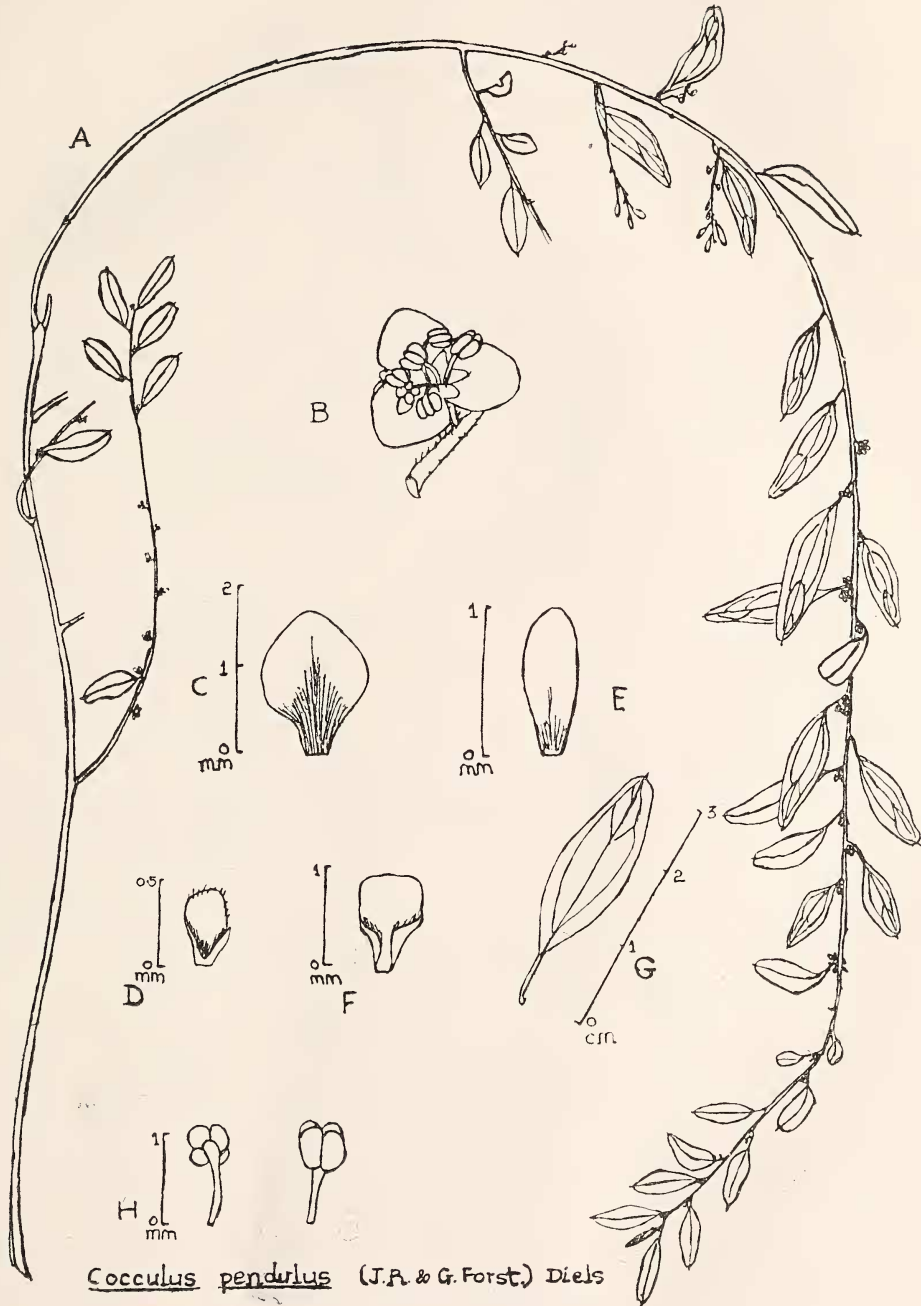


Fig. 1. *Cocculus pendulus* (J.R.&G. Forst.) Diels  
 A. Habit; B. Open flower; C. Inner sepal; D. Outer sepal; E. Inner petal;  
 F. Outer petal; G. Leaf; H. Stamens.

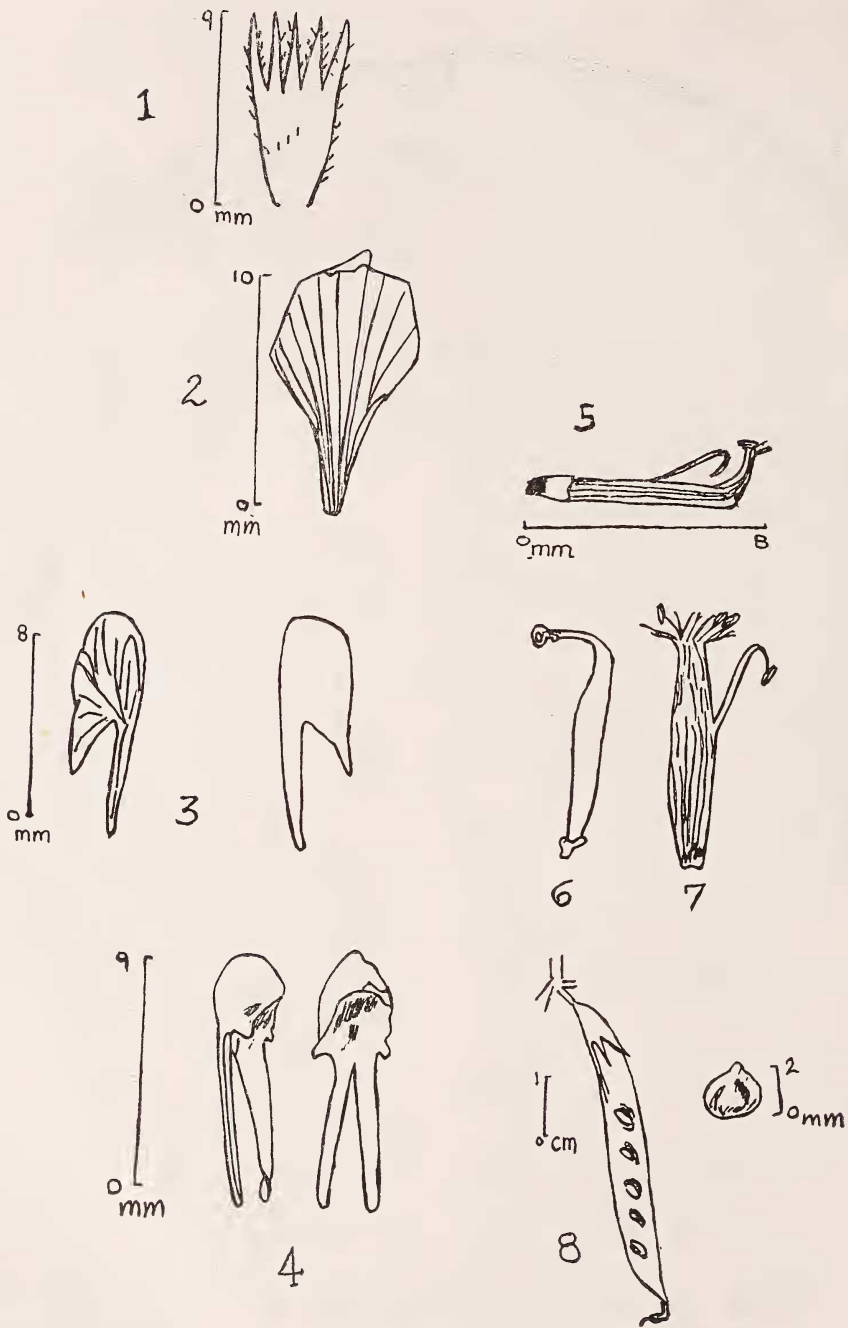


Fig. 2. *Vicia sativa* L.

1. Calyx; 2, 3 & 4. Corolla (standard, Wing & Keel); 5. Staminal tube; 6. Gynoecium; 7. Stamens; 8. Pod and seed.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

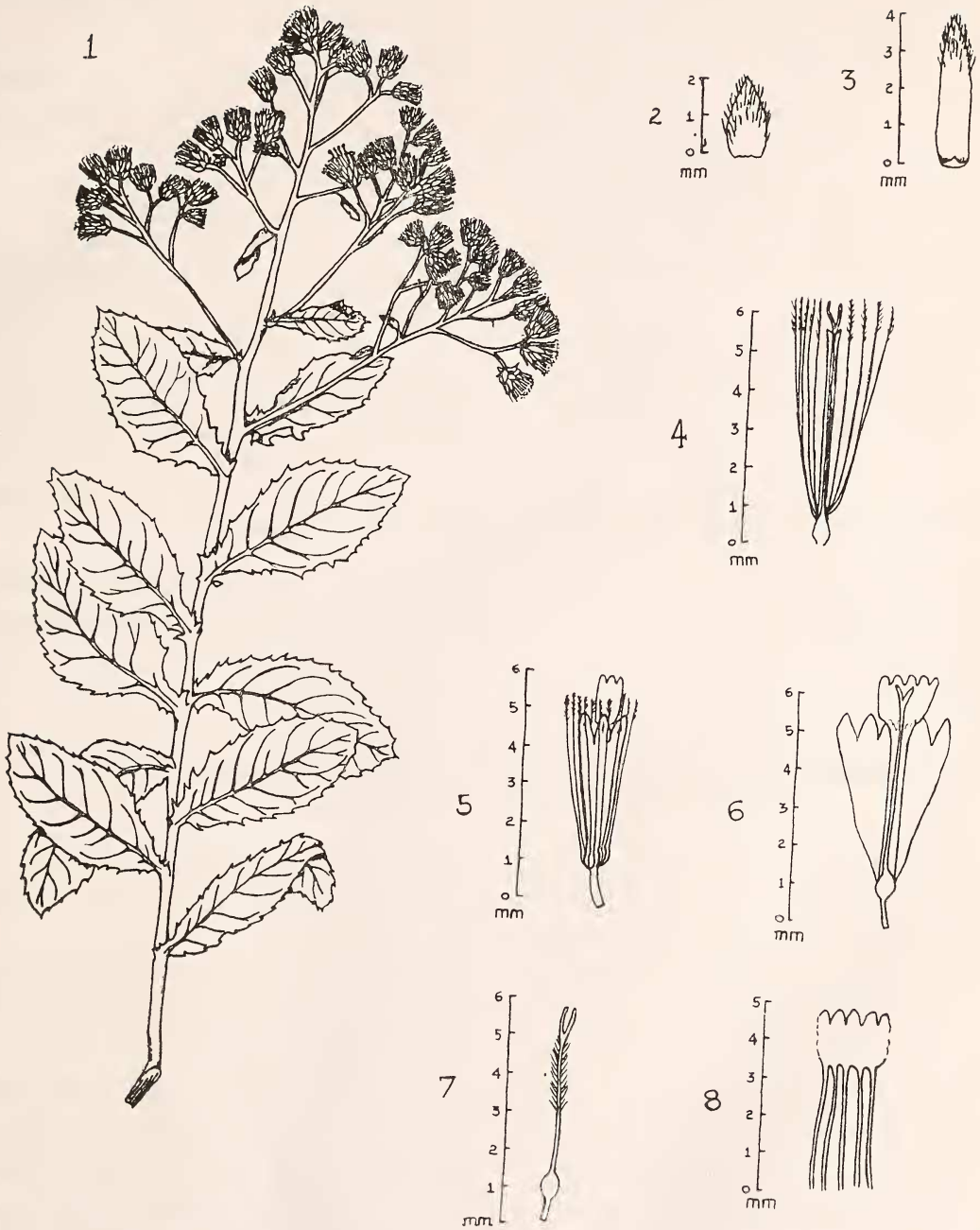


Fig. 3. *Pluchea tomentosa* DC.

1. Habit; 2. Outer involucre bract; 3. Inner involucre bract; 4. Outer ♀ flower; 5. Disc flower; 6. Open disc flower; 7. Pistil; 8. Stamens.

nical Survey of India, Western Circle, Pune (BSI) herbarium, of which six were collected by T. Cooke (no locality and field data is mentioned); and one by D. Prain in 1902 (without any locality). There are six specimens in Dehradun herbarium and three sheets in the National herbarium, Calcutta, of which one is from Sinhgad, Pune (1957). In Blatter herbarium, there are only two specimens from Dharwad, collected by L. J. Sedgwick (2382 & 3454 in 1917).

T. Cooke in Fl. Bombay Pres. has mentioned Konkan and Thalghat, as localities for this species, but there is no representative specimens from these localities in any of the herbaria.

The plant is very common in Nandur Madhmeshwar area. It grows well up to 4 m

tall with the support of other trees, and occupies large area of water-logged marshy land.

Our identification is based on description given by T. Cooke and was confirmed by matching the specimens collected by Sedgwick, deposited at BLAT.

*Flowering:* December-February.

*Exsiccata:* RDS — 2, 85, 691; MRA — 20.

We are grateful to Rev. Fr. John Misquitta, S. J., Principal, St. Xavier's College, Bombay to Mr. M. B. Almeida for guidance; to Mr. V. K. Mohan, Forest Officer, for providing facilities for staying at Khandgaon-irrigation bungalow during field trips; to Mr. Debi Goenka and Ms. Heta Pandit for the assistance and help during the field trips and to Mr. Kevin D'Cruz for drawings.

BLATTER HERBARIUM,  
ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE,  
BOMBAY - 400 001,  
May 24, 1986.

RAJENDRA SHINDE  
S. M. ALMEIDA

### 33. NOMENCLATORIAL NOTES ON *EMBELIA ROBUSTA* AUCT. MULT., NON ROXB. (MYRSINACEAE)

Almeida and Almeida (1984) proposed the combination, *Embelia acutipetalum* (Lam. ex Hassk.) Almeida and Almeida based on *Basal acutipetalum* Lam. ex Hasskarl, Hort. Malab. Rheed. Clavis: 40. 1867 for the species known as "Vidingi" in Maharashtra, a species of great medicinal value and for which Cooke (1904) used the name, *Embelia robusta* Roxb., citing both *Embelia tsjeriam-cottam* (Roem. et Schult.) A. DC. and *E. Basaal* (Roem. et Schult.) A. DC. in synonymy. But the former is based on *Ardisia? tsjeriam-cottam* Roem. et Schult. (1819) and the latter on *A. Basaal* Roem. et Schult. (1819). Both these basionyms have not only priority over *E. robusta* Roxb.

(1820), but also both these names are now accepted (cf. Gamble, 1921) as taxonomically distinct from *E. robusta* Roxb.

Hasskarl (1867), in proposing the name *Basal acutipetalum* Lam. ex Hassk., cited *Dauceria acuta* Dennst.; Steudel, Nom. 1: 485 (1840), '*Ardisia? Basaal* R. S. S. V. IV. 517 ... *E. Basaal* A. DC.', as direct synonyms. Therefore, *Basal acutipetalum* Lam. ex Hassk. must be treated as a superfluous illegitimate name for *E. basaal* (Roem. et Schult.) A. DC. (Art. 7. 11; Art. 63. 1). Further, in as much as *Dauceria acuta* Dennst. ex Steudel (1840) published without a description, is validated by reference to '(Hort. mal. V. 12)', albeit a